

*Amended*

2. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 1, wherein said polymer foam has a center and a uniform size distribution of said at least partially expanded expandable polymeric microspheres from the major surfaces to the center of said polymer foam.

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15. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 1, further comprising a first substrate, wherein said polymer foam is on a major surface of said substrate and said foam article is a multi-layer article.

16. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 15, further comprising a second substrate having a major surface, wherein said polymer foam is sandwiched between said first and second substrates.

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20. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 1, wherein said foam article comprises a polymer composition bonded to said polymer foam.

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21. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 1, wherein said foam article comprises a plurality of polymer compositions bonded to said polymer foam.

22. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 1, wherein said article comprises an adhesive composition bonded to at least one major surface of said polymer foam.

23. (Amended once) A foam article comprising a polymer foam, said polymer foam comprising a homogeneous distribution of a plurality of thermoplastic expandable polymeric microspheres, and said plurality of expandable polymeric microspheres being at least partially expanded, wherein said polymer foam has a center and a uniform size distribution of said at least partially expanded expandable polymeric microspheres from the major surfaces to the center of said foam.

24. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 23, wherein said polymer foam exhibits a machine (or longitudinal) direction and crossweb (or transverse) direction standard deviation of density or thickness over average density or thickness ( $\sigma/x$ ), respectively, of less than about 0.2 [ $\sigma/x$  is less than about 0.1].

25. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 24, wherein  $\sigma/x$  is less than about 0.05.

26. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 24, wherein  $\sigma/x$  is less than about 0.1.

43. (Amended twice) A foam article comprising a polymer foam that includes:

(a) a plurality of at least partially expanded expandable polymeric microspheres, and

(b) a polymer matrix comprising a blend of two or more polymers sufficiently free of urethane crosslinks and urea crosslinks to eliminate the need for isocyanates in said polymer matrix, wherein

at least one of said polymers in said blend comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive polymer that is a reaction product of monomers comprising an acrylate, methacrylate, or combinations thereof and;

at least one of said polymers is selected from polyolefins, polyesters, polyamides, fluorinated polymers, polyalkylene oxides, polyvinyl alcohol, ionomers, cellulose acetate, polyacrylonitrile, polyvinyl chloride, thermoplastic polyurethanes, aromatic epoxies, polycarbonate, polydimethyl siloxane, polybutadiene, polyisoprene, polychloroprene, and ethylene-propylene-diene monomer rubber.

47. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 43, wherein the polymer matrix is capable of stretch activated release.

49. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 23, wherein said polymer foam comprises a polymer matrix comprising a blend of two or more

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polymers wherein at least one of said polymers in said blend comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive and at least one of said polymers is an acrylate-insoluble semicrystalline polymer.

50. (Amended once) The foam article according to claim 1, wherein said polymer foam comprises a polymer matrix comprising a blend of two or more polymers wherein at least one of said polymers in said blend comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive polymer and at least one of said polymers is an acrylate-insoluble semicrystalline polymer.

*Species*

51. (New) The foam article of claim 23, wherein the polymer foam comprises an acrylic foam that is the reaction product of one or more monomeric acrylic or methacrylic esters of non-tertiary alkyl alcohols, wherein the alkyl alcohol has 1 to 20 carbon atoms.

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52. (New) The foam article of claim 23, wherein the polymer foam comprises an acrylic foam that is the reaction product of a monomer mixture comprising:

one or more acrylic or methacrylic esters of non-tertiary alkyl alcohols, wherein the alkyl alcohol has 1 to 20 carbon atoms; and

one or more monomers selected from acrylic acid, acrylamide, methacrylamide, N,N-dimethylacrylamide, itaconic acid, methacrylic acid, acrylonitrile, methacrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, N-vinyl pyrrolidone, isobornyl acrylate, cyano ethyl acrylate, N-vinyl caprolactam, maleic anhydride, hydroxyalkylacrylates, N,N-dimethyl aminoethyl methacrylate, N,N-diethylacrylamide, beta-carboxyethyl acrylate, vinyl esters of neodecanoic, neononanoic, neopentanoic, 2-ethylhexanoic, or propionic acids, vinylidene chloride, styrene, vinyl toluene, and alkyl vinyl ethers.

53. (New) The foam article of claim 23, wherein the polymer foam comprises an acrylic foam that is the reaction product of a monomer mixture comprising:

one or more acrylic or methacrylic esters of non-tertiary alkyl alcohols, wherein the alkyl alcohol has 1 to 20 carbon atoms; and

one or more monomers selected from ethyloxyethoxy ethyl acrylate and methoxypolyethylene glycol acrylate.

54. (New) The foam article of claim 23, wherein the polymer foam comprises a polymer matrix comprising a blend of two or more polymers sufficiently free of urethane crosslinks and urea crosslinks to eliminate the need for isocyanates in said polymer matrix, wherein

at least one of said polymers in said blend comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive polymer that is the reaction product of monomers comprising an acrylate, methacrylate, or combinations thereof;

and at least one of said polymers is selected from unsaturated thermoplastic elastomers, acrylate monomer-insoluble saturated thermoplastic elastomers, acrylate-insoluble semicrystalline polymers, acrylate-insoluble amorphous polymers having a solubility parameter of less than 8 or greater than 11, elastomers containing ultraviolet radiation-activatable groups, and pressure sensitive and hot melt adhesives prepared from non-photopolymerizable monomers.

55. (New) The foam article according to claim 23, wherein the polymer foam is capable of stretch activated release.

56. (New) The foam article according to claim 1, wherein the polymer foam is capable of stretch activated release.

57. (New) The foam article according to claim 1, further comprising at least one polymer composition bonded to said polymer foam.

58. (New) The foam article according to claim 57, wherein the polymer composition comprises an acrylic polymer.